

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully traverse and request reconsideration.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the notice that Claims 2 and 23 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and include any limitations of any intervening claims. Applicants also wish to thank the Examiner for the notice that Claims 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 19, 20, 21 and 24 would be allowable if rewritten to include limitations of intervening base claims. As to claims 2 and 23, the office action cites to page 6, lines 1 through 10 of Applicants' specification. However, Applicants respectfully submit that this is not the portion addressed by the claim. Applicants respectfully refer the Examiner to the next paragraph which indicates that the switchable voltage supply circuit selects as the differential receiver supply voltage, a voltage that is higher than the current I/O pad supply voltage. In any event, Claim 2 and 23 have been amended to clarify the operation. Accordingly, these claims are also in condition for allowance.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,091,300 (Setty et al.). Applicants have amended Claim 1 to indicate that at least one control signal (which may include multiple control signals if desired) indicates an input signal voltage range. For example, as noted in the specification on pages 5-13 and elsewhere, the switchable voltage supply circuit receives a control signal that indicates an input signal voltage range, such as whether the input signal to the differential receiver will be in the range from 0 to 1.5 volts, or 0 to 3.3 volts, or any other suitable range. The switchable voltage supply circuit selects a differential receiver supply voltage, for example from a current I/O pad supply voltage, or a reference supply voltage based on the control signal. The integrated differential receiver automatically provides a supply voltage to the single gate oxide differential receiver with a

voltage that is higher than the current I/O pad supply voltage and higher than the maximum input signal voltage to increase the speed of operation of the differential receiver (see for example page 6, lines 12-22 and elsewhere).

The Setty reference among other differences, does not utilize a control signal that indicates an input signal voltage range. To the contrary, the switches described in Setty are merely switched based on whether the differential amplifier is to be in an auto-zero mode or in an amplification mode. Accordingly, the claim is in condition for allowance.

Claims 4, 8, 10, 14-16 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Setty et al.

The dependent claims are allowable at least for the reasons that the independent claims are allowable and also since the dependent claims add additional novel and non-obvious subject matter.

As to Claim 10 Applicants respectively reassert the relevant remarks made above with respect to Claim 1 and assert this claim is also in condition for allowance.

As to independent Claim 14, Applicants respectively reassert the relevant remarks made above with respect to Claim 1 since these claims were rejected based on the same reasons given for Claim 1. For example, as noted above, the claim requires, among other things, that the controlling signal indicates a maximum input signal voltage to be less than the second reference voltage. In addition, the control signal indicates a maximum input signal voltage to be greater than the reference voltage. No such control signal is present in the Setty reference nor any response to such a control signal. Accordingly, the claim is in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the below-listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/9/06

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